



**Minutes
Town of Lake Park, Florida
Regular Commission Meeting
December 5, 2007 7:55 p.m.**

Town Commission Chambers, 535 Park Avenue

The Town Commission met for the purpose of a Regular Commission Meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 7:55 p.m. Present were Mayor Castro, Vice-Mayor Daly, Commissioners Balius, Carey, and Osterman, Town Manager Maria Davis, Attorney Thomas Baird, and Town Clerk Vivian Mendez.

Vivian Mendez led the Invocation.

Commissioner Balius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Clerk Vivian Mendez performed the Roll Call.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Emergency item K-4 Merit Board was added to the Agenda under Discussion and Possible Action.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve the Agenda as modified; Commissioner Osterman made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey	X		
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor Daly	X		
Mayor Castro	X		

Motion passed 5-0.

PRESENTATION

Weed and Seed Program presented by Rosalind Murray

Mayor Castro welcomed Rosalind Murray.

Ms. Murray thanked the Commission and stated that she was proud of the Weed and Seed Program in Palm Beach County. She explained that the Weed and Seed Program was a federal program which brings dollars to communities to help them eliminate crime and increase law enforcement. Palm Beach County has a countywide Weed and Seed Committee which is funded by the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners and the Criminal Justice Commission. She

stated that there were five Weed and Seed sites which were located in Delray Beach, Belle Glade, West Palm Beach and Riviera Beach. She introduced Craig Spitara who had been involved with Weed and Seed for 10 years and just obtained a successful grant for the Gramercy Village area of West Palm Beach. She also introduced Becky Walker from the Criminal Justice Commission.

Ms. Murray gave a slide presentation about the Weed and Seed Program. She explained that the program was a comprehensive strategy with a four pronged approach which included law enforcement strategy, community policing, prevention, intervention, treatment and neighborhood restoration. She stated that it was a four to five year program. The weeding part of the program was the law enforcement and community policing. The seeding part of the program was the prevention, intervention, treatment and neighborhood restoration. She explained the funding process, application process and requirements of the program.

Mayor Castro asked Ms. Murray to explain why she was there and what she was trying to accomplish.

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that staff requested that the Weed and Seed Program give a presentation because they felt that it was something that the Town should participate in.

Ms. Murray stated that she was there to share information about the Weed and Seed Program and what it does for communities.

Mayor Castro asked Ms. Murray to explain the benefits of the Weed and Seed Program.

Ms. Murray stated that the benefit of the Weed and Seed Program was a reduction in crime. She explained that the Weeding part of the program was law enforcement such as drug buys and drug stings. The Seeding part of the program was made up of after school programs and neighborhood improvement. She stated that the Town would have to apply and inform them of what the Town's particular issues are.

Commissioner Osterman stated that an example of a neighborhood improvement program was the Teen Achieve Program which did not continue due to lack of funding.

Ms. Murray stated that in talking with Town staff she was informed that crime was an issue in the Town. The Weed and Seed Program would provide funds for more law enforcement and other programs that would work with teens and children.

Commissioner Osterman asked if Charretts would need to be done in the neighborhood.

Ms. Murray stated that Charretts would need to be done in the neighborhood. She stated that the Charretts Meetings would have to be funded and conducted by the Town.

Mr. Spitara explained that there was no funding for the first year of the process. A site coordinator would need to be hired and an application submitted. If official designation is awarded, the Town would receive one million dollars over a five year period.

Mayor Castro asked what the cost was for other municipalities to begin implementing the Charretts and Weed and Seed Program.

Ms. Murray stated that it cost other municipalities anywhere between several hundred thousand to one half million dollars.

Mayor Castro stated that he wanted to achieve a positive mental attitude for the Town's children and community.

Ms. Murray explained that funding from the Weed and Seed Program would also go toward a prosecutor to help prosecute crimes that take place in the community. She concluded her presentation by stating that the Town would need to decide if the Weed and Seed Program was best for the Town.

Commissioner Osterman stated that there were issues in the Town that needed to be addressed. She stated that she was concerned about the start up costs for the program. She asked what the success rate of Palm Beach County's Weed and Seed Program's start ups.

Ms. Murray stated that 100% of the communities that went through the start up process and applied for the grant received the grant in Palm Beach County.

Commissioner Osterman asked if the grant required a commitment of Town money or could the Town find smaller grants to start up various programs.

Ms. Murray stated that the Weed and Seed Program was big on leveraging dollars and using funds from outside sources.

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that her plan was to leverage the start up costs for the Weed and Seed Program by using grant money.

Discussion ensued between the Commissioners regarding the Weed and Seed Program.

Vice-Mayor Daly recommended allowing Town Manager Maria Davis to obtain grant money toward implementing the Weed and Seed Program and to bring back her findings to the Commission.

The Commission came to consensus to allow Town Manager Maria Davis to seek and obtain grant money toward implementing the Weed and Seed Program.

Mayor Castro thanked Ms. Murray for her presentation.

PUBLIC and OTHER COMMENT

None

COMMENTS BY COMMISSION, TOWN MANAGER, TOWN ATTORNEY

Commissioner Osterman stated that she had spoken with a resident who was requesting that the Commission consider passing a dress code ordinance. The resident also wanted to know the process for putting the item on referendum. She stated that his other concern was the possibility of creating a curfew for the Town.

Vice-Mayor Daly stated that things have run smoothly in the Recreation Department since new Recreation Department Director Greg Dowling took over. He commended Recreation Department Director Greg Dowling and stated that he was doing an exceptional job in running the Recreation Department.

He requested that a letter be drafted to the Sheriff commending the individuals responsible for the Safety Fair which was sponsored by the Sheriff's Department on November 10, 2007 at Kelsey Park.

Mayor Castro recommended including in the letter how much the Town appreciates Captain Douglas Reece and all that his staff does for the Town.

Vice-Mayor Daly stated that a personal incident happened to him over the past weekend and the Sergeant and a new Deputy came out to handle the situation. He stated that he was impressed on how they handled the situation.

Mayor Castro thanked Town Manager Maria Davis for the holiday lights and decorations in the Town. He addressed Captain Douglas Reece and stated that he appreciated everything he and his Deputies have been doing for the Town. He thanked Recreation Department Director Greg Dowling for the Tree Lighting Ceremony at Lake Shore Park. He stated that the Holiday Boat Parade was great.

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that the Holiday Boat Parade Organization was extremely grateful for the Town's contribution.

Commissioner Balius stated that there were four people from Lake Park who ran and completed the Marathon of the Palm Beaches. He congratulated Jason Clinton, Evan Pennington, James Diaz, and Cynthia Higgins.

Commissioner Carey

None

Town Attorney Thomas Baird

None

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that there was a Regular Commission Meeting scheduled for January 2, 2008. She asked the Commission if they wanted to reschedule.

Discussion ensued between the Commissioners regarding the scheduling of Commission Meetings for January 2008.

The Commission came to consensus to hold the first Commission Meeting of January 2008 on January 16, 2008 and then at that time to decide on the date for the 2nd meeting.

Town Manager Maria Davis asked Finance Director Anne Costello to explain the State Board Administration Investment Fund.

Finance Director Anne Costello stated that the Town of Lake Park has approximately 3.2 million invested with the SBA. The recommendation was to divide the funds into an A Fund and

a B Fund. There would be 2.7 million in the A Fund which would be liquid immediately up to 2 million dollars without redemption fees. Approximately \$450,000 would be frozen up to 12 months. The funds represent the Town's cash reserves. She stated that there were sufficient funds in the Town's checking accounts to meet its operational needs for the immediate future and future months coming. She anticipates more than 3 million dollars in county tax receipts which should more than fund the Town's operational needs for the future.

Town Manager Maria Davis announced Santa's Carriage Ride on Saturday, December 15, 2007 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Resolution No. 91-12-07 Green Local Government

Public Comment Open.

None

Public Comment Closed.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve the Consent Agenda; Vice-Mayor Daly made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey	X		
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor Daly	X		
Mayor Castro	X		

Motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARING

RESOLUTION NO. 90-11-07 Amendment to conditions of the approved Villa Liana Site Plan

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING RESOLUTION 59-10-2006, TO AMEND A CONDITION OF THE RESOLUTION WHICH REQUIRED THAT THE OWNER INITIATE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION GRANTING A SIX MONTH EXTENSION OF THE DEVELOPMENT ORDER AND ALLOWING FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE MONTH EXTENSION FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS "VILLA LIANA" LOCATED ON LOTS 17 TO 28 OF BLOCK 47, ON THE EAST SIDE OF 10TH STREET, SOUTH OF PARK AVENUE AND

APPROXIMATELY 211 FEET SOUTH OF EVERGREEN DRIVE, IN THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ex-parte communication was declared as follows:

Mayor Castro – none
Vice-Mayor Daly – none
Commissioner Balius – none
Commissioner Osterman – none
Commissioner Carey – none

Town Clerk Vivian Mendez swore in all witnesses.

Community Development Patrick Sullivan explained the purpose for the Resolution. He stated that Mr. Ahrens was requesting a 60 day time limit to commence construction instead of a 30 day time limit.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve Resolution 90-11-07 as amended to give Mr. Ahrens 60 days to commence construction of the Villa Liana Project once he obtains a permit; Commissioner Osterman made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey		X	
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor Daly		X	
Mayor Castro		X	

Motion failed 3-2.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve Resolution 90-11-07 as originally written; Commissioner Osterman made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey	X		
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor			

Daly	X		
Mayor Castro		X	

Motion passed 4-1.

Discussion and Possible Action

Closing of Town Hall on December 24th with the Exception of the Sanitation Department

Vice-Mayor Daly recommended extending the option to employees to use one of their 22 days of annual leave for New Years Eve Day.

Discussion ensued between the Commissioners and Town Manager Maria Davis regarding the option for employees to take off New Years Eve Day.

Mayor Castro passed the gavel to Vice-Mayor Daly.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve the Closing of Town Hall on December 24, 2007 with the Exception of the Sanitation Department; Mayor Castro made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey	X		
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor Daly	X		
Mayor Castro	X		

Motion passed 5-0.

To Reconvene a Majority of the Former Members of the Town Merit Board on a Temporary Basis

Commissioner Osterman expressed concern over the newest member of the Merit Board. She stated that she was concerned that this member had not received the same training as the other members. She also noted that there were only four members, which would not give the board an odd number vote.

Town Manager Maria Davis stated that there would still be a quorum with three people on the Merit Board.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Balius to approve the reinstatement of the Merit Board to hear a Grievance; Vice-Mayor Daly made the second.

Vote on Motion:

Commission Member	Aye	Nay	Other
Commissioner Balius	X		
Commissioner Carey	X		
Commissioner Osterman	X		
Vice-Mayor Daly	X		
Mayor Castro		X	

Motion passed 4-1.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission and after a motion to adjourn by Commissioner Balias and seconded by Vice-Mayor Daly, and by unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Mayor Castro



Deputy Clerk Jessica Shepherd



Town Clerk Vivian Mendez



FLORIDA

Approved on this 19 of December, 2007.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
Action Minutes from December 5, 2007



- A. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:55 p.m.
- B. **INVOCATION** Town Clerk
- C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Commissioner Balias
- D. **ROLL CALL** All Present
- E. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS.** Add Emergency item to Discussion and Possible Action
- F. **PRESENTATION:**
Weed and Seed Program Presented by Rosalind Murray
- G. **PUBLIC and OTHER COMMENT**
This time is provided for audience members to address items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Town Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember, comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes. **None**
- H. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, TOWN ATTORNEY, TOWN MANAGER.**
- I. **CONSENT AGENDA:** All matters listed under this item are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner or person so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda. Any person wishing to speak on an Agenda item is asked to complete a public comment card located in the rear of the Chambers and give it to the Town Clerk. Cards must be submitted before the item is discussed.
1. **Resolution No. 91-12-07 Green Local Government** **Approved**
- J. **Public Hearing**
Quasi-Judicial Hearing:
2. **Resolution No. 91-11-07 Amendment to Conditions of the Approved Villa Liana Site Plan**
Approved
- K. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
3. **Closing of Town Hall on December 24, 2007 with the exception of the Sanitation Department.**
Approved
- L. **ADJOURNMENT:** 8:50 p.m.